CATALOGUE

OF AN

EXTREMELY CHOICE COLLECTION

OF

CHINESE PORCELAIN

OF THE MING AND CH'ING DYNASTIES

DECORATED WITH "FAMILLE VERTE",
OR "FAMILLE ROSE" ENAMELS,
OR WITH MONOCHROME GLAZES

ALSO OF

SUPERB JADES, IVORIES AND CORALS

The Property of Edward J. Farmer, Esq.
of New York

WHICH WILL BE SOLD BY AUCTION

BY MESSRS

SOTHEBY & CO.

G. D. HOBSON, M.V.O. F. W. WARRE, O.B.E., M.C. C. G. DES GRAZ.
C. V. PILKINGTON.

Auctioneers of Literary Property & Works illustrative of the Fine Arts.

AT THEIR LARGE GALLERIES, 34 & 35, NEW BOND STREET, W.1

On FRIDAY, the 20th of NOVEMBER, 1936

AT ONE O'CLOCK PRECISELY

On View at least Two Days previous. Catalogues may be had.

Illustrated Catalogue (27 Plates) Price 7/6

A Printed List of all Prices and Buyers' Names at this sale can be supplied for two shillings, and for all sales at low subscription rates

CONDITIONS OF SALE

I. The highest bidder to be the buyer. If any dispute arise the Auctioneer shall have absolute discretion to settle it ; and to put any disputed lot up again.

II. No person to advance less than 1s. ; above five pounds 5s., and so on in proportion.

III. All lots are put up for sale subject (*a*) to any reserve price imposed by the seller and (*b*) to the right of the seller to bid either personally or else by any one person who may be the Auctioneer.

IV. The purchasers to give in their names and places of abode, and if required, to pay down 10s. in the pound or more, in part payment of the purchase money ; in default of which the lot or lots purchased may be immediately put up again and re-sold.

V. All lots are sold as shown with all faults, imperfections, and errors of description. Messrs. Sotheby & Co. act as agents ; they have full discretion to refuse any bidding or to withdraw any lot or lots from the sale without in either case giving any reason ; they are not responsible for errors of description or for genuineness or authenticity of any lot or for any fault or defect in it, and make no warranty whatever.

VI. The lots to be taken away at the buyer's risk and expense, immediately after the conclusion of the sale ; in default of which Messrs. Sotheby & Co. will not hold themselves responsible if the same are lost, stolen, damaged or otherwise destroyed, but they will be left at the sole risk of the purchaser, and subject to a charge for warehousing. If, at the expiration of Two Days after the conclusion of the sale, the lots are not cleared or paid for, they may then be sold immediately, either publicly or by private treaty, without any notice being given to the defaulter.

VII. Upon failure of the buyer to comply with any of the above conditions, the money deposited in part-payment shall be forfeited ; and the defaulter at this sale shall make good any loss arising from the re-sale, together with the charges and expenses in respect of both sales.

To prevent confusion no purchases can be claimed or removed during the sale.

Messrs. SOTHEBY & Co.
are prepared to execute bids, and in addition to advise intending purchasers as far as possible, if requested by them to do so, without making any charge for either service. Lots will be procured as cheaply as is permitted by other bids or reserves, if any.

34 *and* 35, *New Bond Street, London, W.*1.

Telegraphic Address :
"Abinitio, Wesdo, London."
A.B.C. Code, 5th Edition.

Telephone : (3 *lines*)
Mayfair 6682, 6683. 6684

In sending Commissions this Catalogue may be referred to as "BEECH."

COMMISSIONS SENT BY TELEPHONE ARE ACCEPTED ONLY AT THE SENDER'S RISK AND MUST BE CONFIRMED BY LETTER OR TELEGRAM.

PREFACE

MR. Edward I. Farmer has been known for many years in New York as a dealer in Chinese Ceramics and Hardstones of the highest quality. From time to time in the course of his business he acquired a piece which he did not show even to his most privileged customers, but kept for his own pleasure behind secret panels in one of his rooms. It is the collection of these pieces, chosen with highly cultivated taste and very wide knowledge from many hundreds, which is now offered for sale by auction.

Perhaps to English collectors the most attractive things in the collection will be the superb series of " famille verte " Vases (lots 26 to 36), the fine Jades, including lot 17, the colour of which recalls the remarkable Bowl sold in these Rooms on November 7th, 1935, the wonderful series of Corals which for size, colour and quality probably surpasses anything previously seen in any sale room, and the few choice pieces of " famille rose ".

Connoisseurs of earlier Chinese art will be interested in the collection of Ming Ivories which has taken many years to assemble. There are, in addition, a few very unusual pieces which will appeal to students and collectors, notably the rare Beaker of bronze form which has an ivory glaze with exquisitely drawn and modulated decorations in underglaze and thinly applied black glaze on the cream porcelain, resulting in greenish-grey tones.

Finally, there is the Star-sapphire Vase (lot 51, see Frontispiece), which for size, colour and quality is believed to be unique. There is little doubt that it is a work of the great potter Lang, who, by reviving the celebrated Ming red in the reign of K'ang Hsi, gave his name to the Lang yao or Lang's ware ; as stated in the catalogue, the technique of the Vase resembles Lang yao ware in every respect except that of colour. Many important Chinese dealers in Ceramics have stated that they had heard of a Vase of this type but never seen one, and when this Vase was shown to them, they immediately called it a Lang yao blue Vase. We are fortunate in being allowed to show the fine Bracelet of star sapphires displayed on our frontispiece with the Vase ; to see the two together is to realise the consummate skill of the great master of Ceramics who rendered in his own medium with complete success the cloudy brilliance of the jewel. Mr. Farmer asks us to express his hope that the possession of this unique masterpiece will give as much pleasure to its new owner as it has done to himself.

October, 1936. SOTHEBY & CO.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2023 with funding from
The Metropolitan Museum of Art

https://archive.org/details/extremelychoicec00soth_1

CATALOGUE

of an extremely choice Collection

OF

CHINESE PORCELAIN

of the Ming and Ch'ing Dynasties

DECORATED WITH "FAMILLE VERTE"
OR "FAMILLE ROSE" ENAMELS
OR WITH MONOCHROME GLAZES

ALSO OF

SUPERB JADES, IVORIES AND CORALS

The Property of Mr. Edward J. Farmer
of New York

DAY OF SALE:

Friday, November 20th, 1936

FINE JADE, CORAL AND IVORY CARVINGS

1 A SMALL VASE AND COVER, of flattened baluster form in "mutton fat" jade, with double scroll handles, carved all over with a formal floral design, the Cover with acanthus leaves and lotus bud finial, 6*in.*; *Ch'ien Lung*; wood stand 2

2 AN INCENSE BURNER AND COVER in "mutton fat" jade, the circular body and cover carved with *t'ao t'ieh* masks and *kuei* fret ornament and with double handles, the cover surmounted by a circular spirally carved finial and supported on three short mask and scroll feet, 4⅜*in.*; *Ch'ien Lung*; inlaid wire stand 3

3 A FINE SMALL ALTAR SET in "mutton fat" jade, comprising:—a centre Vase and Cover of rectangular boat shape, with finely pierced and carved mask handles, the fluted body ornamented with bands of formalised characters and stiff leaves, the cover surmounted by a pierced fret gallery, 6*in.*, a small Box and Cover, 2*in.*, and a flattened baluster Vase, 4*in.*; the set is mounted on dark green jade carved stands; *Ch'ien Lung* 8

4 A PAIR OF ATTRACTIVE CHRYSANTHEMUM BOWLS AND COVERS, in pale grey-green jade, the fluted bodies simulating petals, the bases and cover finials similarly carved with radiating petals, $5\frac{1}{8}$*in. diam.*, $3\frac{1}{4}$*in. high*; *Ch'ien Lung*; wood stands 6

*** A very similar lacquer cup and cover in the Parry Collection with an Imperial Inscription of the Ch'ien Lung period was exhibited at the Chinese Exhibition (London), 1935, Cat. 2957.

5 A FINE INCENSE BURNER AND COVER of circular form, with three perforated and finely carved lotus handles, the body and cover each decorated with a broad band of scrolling lotus, the cover surmounted by a pierced foliate knop and supported on a plain conical foot, $4\frac{1}{4}$*in.*; *Ch'ien Lung*; wood stand 3

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

6 A FINE "MUTTON FAT" JADE VASE and Cover, of flattened ovoid form, with double elephant mask and ring handles, the neck carved with stiff leaves and key fret, the sides superbly carved with scaly dragons chasing flaming pearls mid cloud-bands within a border of the Eight Buddhist Emblems of Happy Augury (*pa chi-hsiang*); the signs on the sole of Buddha's foot; supported on a narrow conical foot, $9\frac{1}{4}$*in.*; *Ch'ien Lung*; wood stand 3

*** A similar vase in the John Buchanan-Jardine Collection was exhibited at the Chinese Exhibition (London) 1935, Cat. 2839.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

7 A VERY FINE WHITE JADE BOWL, with superbly carved and pierced double bat (*fu*) and ring handles, the exterior carved with an attractive design of flowering peony trees, grasses and *ling chih* fungus, the interior plain except for a double spray of grasses and *ling chih* fungus in high relief, $7\frac{1}{2}$*in. diam., width with handles* $10\frac{1}{4}$*in.*; *K'ang Hsi*; superb quality 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

5 7 6

11 14 13

12

8 A PAIR OF ATTRACTIVE MOTTLED GREEN JADE BOWLS, with slightly everted rims supported on plain circular feet, the mottling of almost "cracked-ice" pattern and in so-called *fei ts'ui* style is pleasantly broken with moss markings in varying shades of green mixed with black speckling, $5\frac{1}{2}$*in. diam.*; *Ch'ien Lung*; carved wood stands 4

9 A RARE SPINACH GREEN JADE SAUCER DISH, with fine mottled moss markings in similar style to the two preceding bowls, supported on a strong circular foot, and bearing on the base *the six character mark of Ch'ien Lung*, 9*in.*; wood stand 2

10 THE COMPANION DISH of slightly larger and shallower form, with regular mottling on a mossy green ground, $9\frac{7}{8}$*in.*; *Ch'ien Lung mark*; wood stand 2

11 A BALUSTER VASE of flattened form with double dragon mask and ring handles, decorated round the neck with stiff leaves and *yin-yang* symbols, the body decorated with archaic dragons and *t'ao-t'ieh* masks on a key fret ground, in dark green jade, $5\frac{3}{4}$*in.*; *K'ang Hsi*; wood stand 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

12 A RARE VASE AND COVER in dark green jade, the vase supported on a kylin and coiled about with a dragon pursuing a flaming pearl in high relief on a ground of cloud-bands, the kylin carved with great vigour, its saddlecloth ornamented with bats and *pao shan hai shui*, the pierced cover with similar motifs, $7\frac{1}{4}$*in.*, 18*th Century*; with stand 3

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

13 A FINE FENG VASE AND COVER supported on the back of a superbly carved phoenix holding a ring in its beak, the baluster vase carved with an archaic dragon in relief round the sides, the cover surmounted by a recumbent figure of a similar animal; the dark olive colour enhanced by unusually crisp carving, 7*in.*; *K'ang Hsi*; wood stand 3

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

14 A PAIR OF MOTTLED GREEN JADE PARROTS forming vases, with loose reversible heads, carved with crests, the wing bays and tail feathers finely carved, the mottled so-called *fei-ts'ui* colouring unusually pronounced and attractive, $5\frac{5}{8}$*in.* 4

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

15 A DARK GREEN JADE PHOENIX VASE, the *feng* bird carved with a head like a duck and ornamented with *ling chih* fungus in low relief, the baluster vase supported on a stand with double mask and ring handles and a border of *ju-i* shaped lappets around the shoulder, 8*in.*, 18*th Century* ; wood stand 2

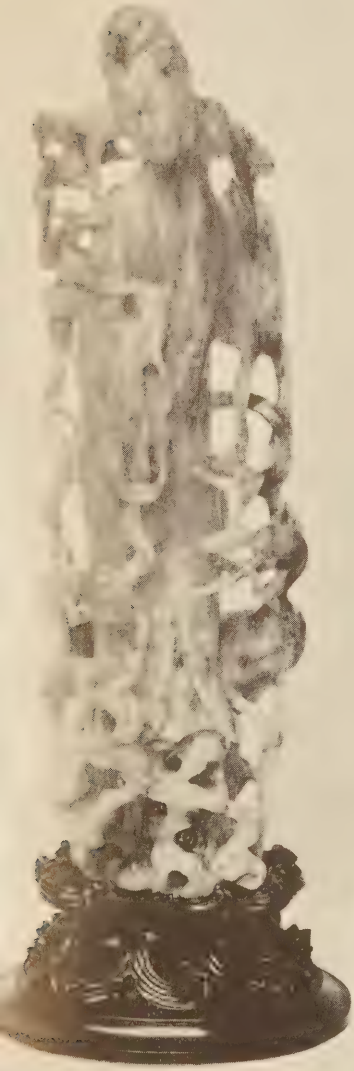
[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

16 A VERY ATTRACTIVE CLOCK within an emerald green jade frame, mounted in sterling silver gilt, supported by two superbly carved ho-ho birds, bending forward and facing each other, their exotic tails with two unusually long feathers turned upwards, in soft shades of green, the bases carved with flowers and supported on a gilt-wood base, 11*in.*, superb quality

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

16

15



17

18

19

17 A SUPERB EMERALD GREEN JADE STANDING FIGURE OF AN IMMORTAL, holding a spray of *ling chih* fungus in her left hand, from which is suspended a basket, the ends falling at her side are held in the mouth of a deer and in the beak of a phoenix; she is depicted in a long flowing robe with wide sleeves, standing on a pierced and rocky base, the colouring unusually fine and attractive, 13*in.*; wood stand

*** The figure may be intended to represent either of the two maiden Immortals, Ho Hsien-Ku or Lan Ts'ai-Ho.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

18 A CORAL BALUSTER VASE AND COVER, carved in high relief with a pair of kylins sporting around the sides on a ground of archaic fret and ogre masks, the neck with stiff leaves and key fret, surmounted by a cover with kylin finial, 8½*in.*; wood stand, 18*th Century* 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

19 A VERY FINE AND ELEGANT CORAL FIGURE OF A LADY IMMORTAL, with high piled head-dress, in flowing robes, holding the end of her girdle in her right hand, standing on a rocky base, on which is seated at her side a figure of a hare, according to Taoist myth he pounds the elixir of longevity, 12¾*in.*, 18*th Century*

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

20 A CORAL CARVING OF TWIN GODDESSES flanking a bird perched on a rocky base in the centre and supporting a clock, set in an emerald green jade annulet frame, mounted in sterling silver gilt ; the coral female figures supporting peaches, lotus blossoms and *ling chih* fungus, against a background of flowering prunus trees ; on a gilded base, 12¼*in.*, 18*th Century*

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

21 AN EXTREMELY FINE CORAL GROUP OF HSI WANG MU AND ATTENDANTS, standing on a phoenix with outspread wings; the Western Mother is depicted in the centre, flanked by two of her hand maidens with a fan and an umbrella, in her hand she holds a flute, and on her high-piled head-dress is perched a *feng* bird ; the supporting phoenix rests on a rocky base carved with *ling chih* fungus and holds in its beak a necklet, 14¾*in.* (a fine carving in brilliant condition), 18*th Century*

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

22 ANOTHER SUPERB CORAL CARVING OF RICH COLOURING, depicting a group of two Lady Immortals and a boy with a branch of flowers, standing on a seated phoenix, the latter with outstretched neck, holding in its beak a spray of lotus, is supported on a green ivory wave-girt base, giving an impression of the bird floating on water, 15*in. wide*, 11*in. high*, 18*th Century*

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

22 21 20

23 A MAGNIFICENT CORAL STANDING FIGURE OF KUAN YIN holding a vase in her left hand, her high-piled hair adorned with a lotus blossom, over her flowing robes she wears the celestial scarf (*tien-ye*), at her side are a pair of cranes standing on a flowering prunus trunk, the whole is supported on a very finely carved green ivory stand, 17*in.* (a rare and remarkable figure), 18*th Century*

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

24 A VERY LARGE LAPIS LAZULI CARVING OF A MOUNTAIN RETREAT, probably intended for the Taoist Paradise in the K'un Lun mountains; it is carved on both sides with pagodas, bridges, pine trees and river gorges, the colouring is unusually fine and shades from a rich violet blue to lighter tones, 13½*in. wide*, 9*in. high*; *Ch'ien Lung*; wood stand 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

25 AN INTERESTING COLLECTION OF SIXTEEN RARE MING IVORY FIGURES OF DEITIES, finely carved and well patinated, comprising :—

1. Shou Lao with his staff and familiars, the deer and crane, 8*in.*
2. Kuan Yin, a superbly carved seated figure with rich patination, $5\frac{3}{8}$*in.*
3. A figure of Wen ch'ang ti chun, God of Literature, seated, with hands clasped in front, the features in meditation, $4\frac{5}{8}$*in.*
4. Shou Lao, a standing figure, with a staff, dark patination, perhaps intended for Shou-hsing, God of Longevity, $7\frac{1}{2}$*in.*
5. Kuan Yin, seated figure, attended by her acolyte, Long Nu, $4\frac{1}{8}$*in.*
6. Kuan Yin, a finely carved and patinated figure of the Goddess of Mercy, on a lotus padmasana, 10*in.*
7. Huang An, a small standing figure on a tortoise-like monster, $4\frac{7}{8}$*in.*
8. Kuan Yin, a seated figure with a rosary in her left hand and a scroll in her right, $4\frac{1}{4}$*in.*
9. A Shi-tzu, small but finely carved, $1\frac{7}{8}$*in.*
10. A Lohan, a small figure with hands depicted in prayer mudra, $3\frac{3}{8}$*in.*
11. Kuan Yin, a small seated figure, finely patinated, 3*in.*
12. Li Tai-po, a reclining figure of the celebrated drunken poet of the T'ang dynasty, one of the Eight Immortals of the Wine Cup, $2\frac{1}{4}$*in.*
13. Ho ho erh hsien, an attractive and amusing figure of one of the Twin Genii, $4\frac{7}{8}$*in.*
14. Kuan Yin (*Sung Tse*), the maternal, an early and strongly carved seated figure of the Goddess with a child on her knee, showing European influence of the Madonna and Child, $7\frac{1}{4}$*in.*
15. Buddha, a superb seated figure of Amida, with closely cropped hair, long pendulous ears and well defined urna, the features in samadhi, wearing a jewelled necklet and flowing robes, in the adamantine pose on a lotus padmasana, $6\frac{1}{2}$*in.*
16. Kuan Yin, a very attractively carved early figure of the Goddess seated in the lalitasana pose, her hair and robe borderings picked out in black, $4\frac{3}{4}$*in.*

The figures are generally in a fine state of preservation and are mounted on single and composite wood stands ; they are offered together owing to the extreme difficulty of forming a similar collection ; *Ming Dynasty* 21

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

PORCELAIN WITH ENAMEL DECORATION

"FAMILLE VERTE"

26 A PAIR OF FINE "FAMILLE VERTE" ROULEAU VASES (*chih ch'ui p'ing*), spiritedly drawn and painted round the sides with an assembly of warriors, and an Emperor watching an actor dressed as a demon dancing, within borders of false gadroons, in green and aubergine round the bases and floral and diaper ornament round the shoulders interspersed with vignettes of bamboos and *shan shui* subjects, the necks with *wa wa* subjects and bamboo respectively, 17¾*in.*; *K'ang Hsi*; wood stands 4

** The shape and style are illustrated on Plate IV, Catalogue of the Leonard Gow Collection, by R. L. Hobson.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

28

27

27 A VERY FINE " FAMILLE VERTE " " YEN YEN " VASE with trumpet neck and baluster body, the latter finely drawn and enamelled in brilliant colours with equestrian warriors, soldiers and a captive, divided from the neck by a band of yellow and aubergine cell diaper, the neck painted with an audience scene, figures on a terrace, trees and rocks, 18*in.* ; *K'ang Hsi*, superb quality and condition

*** The type of vase is illustrated by R. L. Hobson in the Catalogue of the Leonard Gow Collection, Plate XXI.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

28 AN EXTREMELY FINE " FAMILLE VERTE " " KUAN YIN " VASE with ovoid baluster body and cylindrical neck, flared at the mouth, the body superbly drawn and enamelled with figures of ladies and warriors in an interior and on a terrace, flanked by prunus and willow trees mid cloud-bands in " rouge-de-fer ", the neck with simple borders of *ju-i*-shaped lappets and fret in green, aubergine and red, 18*in.* ; *K'ang Hsi* ; wood stand 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

29 A MING " FAMILLE VERTE " BEAKER of cylindrical form, enamelled in three zones with figure subjects on a terrace, trees and root ornament, the central bulb with sprays of flowering plants, grasses, root and rock ornament, the lower zone with the Three Fruits, symbolic of the Three Abundances, Years, Sons and Happiness, 17¾*in.* ; wood stand 2

30 A "FAMILLE VERTE" LARGE ROULEAU VASE (*chih ch'ui p'ing*), brilliantly enamelled on the body with elegant ladies with black hair, in a garden scene engaged in the Four Liberal Accomplishments, Painting, Music, Literature and Checkers, the neck, which has been restored, is painted with rocks, trees and a river scene, the lip with a cell diaper border in red and green interspersed with *shou* characters, 18*in.*; *K'ang Hsi*; wood stand 2

*** An almost exactly similar vase in the Leonard Gow Collection is illustrated by R. L. Hobson on plate XLVIII of the Catalogue.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

31 ANOTHER FINE ROULEAU VASE enamelled in "famille verte" with a seated figure of an Emperor, with a lady attendant at his side against a background of *pao shan hai shui*, and on a terrace in front of him a lady with a vase of flowers and ten other figures of lady musicians with a variety of instruments, the reverse of the vase with tall green trees, the neck with a narrow border of green, yellow and aubergine lappets below four blue and gold longevity characters, 18*in.*; *K'ang Hsi*

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

32 A "FAMILLE VERTE" CYLINDRICAL JAR AND COVER enamelled with reserved medallions of flowers on a green "cracked-ice" ground, enriched with floating prunus blossoms in "rouge-de-fer"; the base with a border of red and aubergine leaves, 6¾*in.*; *rare importer's mark "G" in underglaze blue on the base*; *K'ang Hsi*; wood stand 3

33 A PAIR OF INTERESTING WINE EWERS of unusual form, the pear-shaped bodies spirally lobed and ornamented in "famille verte" enamels on a brown stipple ground with butterflies, birds and a variety of flowers and grasses; the covers similarly decorated, the rope-twisted loop handles and scroll spouts with flowers on a white ground; the conical feet with scalloped borders, 10⅞*in.*; *K'ang Hsi* 4

[*See* ILLUSTRATION, *opposite page* 28]

30

31

34 A MAGNIFICENT "FAMILLE VERTE" LARGE ROULEAU VASE (*chih ch'ui p'ing*), superbly drawn and enamelled in brilliant colours with an exotic *feng* bird standing on a rock amid a background of flowering peony, lotus and magnolia trees, with smaller birds in the branches and in flight ; the neck with two flowering branches on a plain white ground surmounted by a border of red key fret at the rim, 18¼*in.* ; *K'ang Hsi* ; wood stand, superb quality and condition 2

*** This fine vase is probably by the same hand as the one in the Leonard Gow Collection, illustrated in colour by R. L. Hobson in the Catalogue, Plate XXIII, No. 124.

[*See* COLOUR PLATE]

35 A RARE " FAMILLE VERTE " AND " ROUGE-DE-FER " " YEN YEN " VASE, decorated on the trumpet neck and baluster body with *feng huang* and flowering peony trees in brilliant enamel colours and underglaze blue on a ground of " rouge-de-fer " and white arabesques ; dividing the neck and base is a narrow band of green stipple, ornamented with scattered plum blossom in red and yellow, 17¾*in.* ; *K'ang Hsi* ; wood stand 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

36 A PAIR OF VERY FINE AND ATTRACTIVE BOTTLES, with ovoid bodies and tall tapering cylindrical necks, decorated with diaper and stiff leaves in " rouge-de-fer " and gold, the shoulders with cell diaper borders of the same colours, enriched with reserved panels of flower-sprays, the bodies with a bold and attractive design of large *ju-i*-shaped lappets alternately in red and pale turquoise enriched with gilding and dividing sprays of lotus ; around the bases borders of pale turquoise with meandering peonies in gold and " rouge-de-fer ", 18*in.* ; *K'ang Hsi* ; wood stands ; a rare and brilliant pair in fine state 4

*** The shape and style of decoration of these bottles is similar to one illustrated in colour in the Catalogue of the Richard Bennett Collection, No. 214.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

36

35

36

37 A REMARKABLE YELLOW GROUND LARGE VASE (*mei p'ing*), of inverted baluster form, surmounted by a small and short cylindrical neck for a single spray of flowers, the Imperial yellow body incised and decorated in relief with five-clawed green scaly dragons pursuing flaming pearls mid cloud-bands above a border of "Rock of Ages" pattern (*pao shan hai shui*), 16¾*in.*; *K'ang Hsi*; wood stand 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

38 A VERY ATTRACTIVE INCISED DRAGON VASE (*mei p'ing*) of inverted baluster form with small mouth, incised and enamelled in green on a white ground with two four-clawed scaly dragons pursuing flaming pearls mid cloud-bands appropriately spaced to fill in the decoration, 9¼*in.*; *K'ang Hsi*; finely pierced and carved tall stand 2

*** The type of green incised dragons is well illustrated in the series of dishes and bowls in "Ming and Ch'ing Porcelains", by Bluett.

PORCELAIN WITH "FAMILLE ROSE" DECORATION

39 A CYLINDRICAL JAR AND COVER with "famille noire" ground colour ornamented with peonies, chrysanthemums and other flowers in "famille rose" enamels, the base with a harlequin border of false gadroons in yellow, blue and pink, 7*in.*; *Yung Chêng*; wood stand 3

40 A PAIR OF LARGE AND FINE "FAMILLE ROSE" DISHES, brilliantly enamelled with mandarin ducks and birds in flight among lotus and aquatic plants within pink lattice diaper well borders, and outer borders of aquatic plants and birds, 17*in.*; *Ch'ien Lung* 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

41 A PAIR OF "FAMILLE NOIRE" AND "FAMILLE ROSE" DISHES, painted in the centres with cocks standing on root ornament against a background of flowering peony trees and butterflies, within wide and attractive "famille noire" borders enriched with flower-sprays in green and "famille rose" enamels, and outer borders of pink lattice diaper, 15⅜*in.*; *Yung Chêng*; wood stands 4

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

40

41

42 A VERY FINE "FAMILLE NOIRE" AND RUBY GARNITURE OF A VASE AND TWO BEAKERS, painted with reserved panels of flowers and *shan shui* subjects on a " famille noire " ground enriched with flowering chrysanthemums in " famille rose " enamels and green, within wide ruby borders in the form of *ju-i*-shaped lappets at the necks and bases, the cover of the oviform double ogee vase similarly ornamented with smaller panels of landscapes and flowers on a " famille noire " ground, and surmounted by a seated figure of a Shi-tzu, *vase* 18½*in.*, *beakers* 13¾*in.* ; *Yung Chêng* ; wood stands 7

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

43 AN EXTREMELY FINE AND ELEGANT PAIR OF "FAMILLE ROSE" VASES of slender baluster form with trumpet necks, supported on domed feet, painted with plum blossom in "rouge-de-fer", the bodies and necks superbly drawn and enamelled on a plain white ground with The Western Mother, Hsi Wang Mu, in a boat laden with the peach of longevity and Taoist emblems, on a green wave-scroll sea, scattered with plum blossoms, the boat paddled by her fairy handmaid Tung Shwang Ch'êng on her way to visit the Taoist Paradise by the shores of the Lake of Gems ; in the air are cloud-bands and a crane-like bird, her winged messenger Ts'ing Niao ; the necks of the vases with sprays of *ling chih* fungus, 17½*in.* ; *Yung Chêng* ; wood stands 4

*** References to Hsi Wang Mu occur in the Books of Chou, the Annals of the Bamboo Books and also in the Shan Hai Ching. See also "The Chinese Classics" by the Rev. James Legge, D.D. The shape of the vases is similar to the famous vase in the Richard Bennett Collection, No. 325, illustrated in colour in that catalogue.

[*See* Colour Plate]

44 A RARE " FAMILLE ROSE " BISCUIT FIGURE OF TO WEN, Guardian of the North, seated, wearing armour, over which is a pink surcoat lined with green and with yellow sleeves, ornamented with flowers, the undercoat of green with a blue mask, from which depends scale armour in the form of a fish, the knee kops in the form of ogre masks terminating in yellow leg guards and black boots ; his ferocious face is surmounted by a blue enamelled helmet ; the whole figure rests on a perforated aubergine base, 12*in.* ; *Yung Chêng* ; wood stand (see also lots 54 and 55 in " famille verte " enamels on biscuit) 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

PORCELAIN WITH MONOCHROME GLAZES

45 AN IMPERIAL " ROSE POMPADOUR " VASE with globular body and flared cylindrical neck with double dragon handles, the interior painted with robin's egg blue, the whole of the body covered with a raspberry glaze of soft colouring (*juan ts'ai*), one of the attractive palettes of *mei kuei* (rose pink) ; the underside of the base matching the robin's egg blue of the interior and bearing in underglaze blue the *seal mark of Ch'ien Lung*, 13⅝*in.* ; wood stand 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

46 A FINE IMPERIAL PALE BLUE SYMBOLIC VASE of *ts'ung* form, with double elephant handles, and on the four sides moulded in high relief with circular archaic dragon medallions, bats, characters and other symbolic motifs within dragon spandrels on a ground-work of fret diaper ; the neck and base with similar diaper divided by a band of Longevity Characters in formal medallions, 16⅜*in.* ; *impressed seal mark and period of Ch'ien Lung*

⁂ The shape of this vase is based on that of the jade form Ts'ung, or image of the earth, which was a square prism enclosing a hollow cylinder and dates from the Chou Dynasty ; see " Chou Li " (French translation by Biot) and " Jade ", by B. Laufer, Chicago Field Museum of Natural History and Anthropological Series, Vol. X, 1912, p. 120.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

47 A RARE AND UNUSUAL BEAKER OF BRONZE FORM, decorated on an ivory glaze in underglaze black on the trumpet neck with cranes, pines and deer, Emblems of Longevity, and on the bulb with medallions of the Four Supernatural Creatures (*ssu ling*), Dragon, Phoenix, Kylin and Tortoise, also symbolic of the Four Quadrants and at times further symbolic of the Four Seasons, on a ground of swastika diaper ; the lower and third zone of the vase decorated with two barbed medallions, one depicting the Buddhist apostle Bôdhidharma (*Ta Mo*) crossing the Yangtse on a reed on his return to India after a nine years' sojourn in China, the other medallion depicting the Two Brother Philosophers, Ch'eng, of the Sung Dynasty by a bridge over a river, 17½*in.* ; *six character mark Ta Ming Chia Ching nien chih* ; wood stand 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

48 A VERY FINE FUKIEN "BLANC-DE-CHINE" FIGURE OF BUDDHA, standing, with jewelled corsage, bearing on the breast a *wan*, in flowing robes, the left hand in front of the breast, the right extended in mudra pointing to the ground; the face in samadhi is surmounted by closely cropped hair, *ushnisha* and prominent *urna*; the figure rests on a circular lotus base, 19⅝*in.*, 17*th Century*; carved wood stand; an attractive figure in fine state of preservation 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

49 AN EARLY CELADON BALUSTER VASE AND COVER with a very even sea-green Celadon glaze, which reaches to the foot rim and covers the base, leaving the flange a reddy unfired biscuit tone; the cover of conical cylindrical form, has a terraced dome top and knop finial, 17½*in.*; *Sung/Ming Dynasty*; wood stand 3

50 AN ATTRACTIVE PALE CELADON FLOWER HOLDER in the form of a central vase, surrounded by five other oviform vases with tubular necks, slightly shorter than the central vase and ornamented in slip relief with borders of *ju-i*-shaped lappets round the necks, recalling Mishima decoration; the whole covered with a very pleasant soft Celadon glaze, 11½*in.*; *seal mark of Yung Chêng*; wood stand; probably made for the Imperial Palace 2

51 A VERY RARE AND BEAUTIFUL STAR-SAPPHIRE VASE of massive inverted baluster form, entirely covered with a crackled sapphire blue glaze, coagulating at the base, the underside of the base similarly glazed and crackled, the interior with a creamy crackle; the technique resembles in every detail except the colour that of the Lang Yao of the same period, 14½*in.*; *K'ang Hsi*; wood stand and pierced cover with carved jade finial

*** The star-sapphire bracelet as above is shown by courtesy of Messrs. Cartier (bracelet NOW on loan).

[*See* FRONTISPIECE]

PORCELAIN ENAMELLED ON THE BISCUIT

52 TWO GREEN GLAZED BISCUIT TEAPOTS, each in the form of a bundle of bamboo and with bamboo spouts and handles, one decorated with flowering prunus boughs in white and aubergine, the other with a formal design of cloud-scrolls in aubergine, also on a green ground, 4¼*in.* ; *K'ang Hsi* 4

*** The type is illustrated in the Leonard Gow Catalogue, Plate LVIII, Nos. 273 and 274, and also in the Catalogue of the Berlin Exhibition, 1929, Cat. No. 929.

53 A PAIR OF ENAMELLED BISCUIT FIGURES OF IMMORTALS, perhaps intended for Chang Kuo, who holds a bamboo tube, and Chung Li Chuan, holding a peach, though this figure probably represents Tung-fang So in commemoration of his feat in stealing the peaches from the Tree of Longevity in the Gardens of Hsi Wang Mu, the royal Mother of the West, and this is strengthened by the fact that his robes are decorated with bunches of peaches on an aubergine ground ; both on perforated rectangular bases, 10*in.* ; *K'ang Hsi* 2

54 A BISCUIT FIGURE OF TO WEN with fierce expression, in armour, seated, in green surcoat, aubergine, green and orange leg guards ; his raised right foot resting on a fabulous monster (perhaps intended for a mongoose) ; his right hand once held a lance, now missing ; in his left he holds an oyster shell and pearl, supported on an aubergine rocky base, 9½*in.* ; *K'ang Hsi*

*** To Wen, one of the Celestial Guardians of the Four Quarters of the Heavens, represents the North, and, as one of the Lokapala, also Autumn, and is termed the Black Warrior.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

55 ANOTHER " FAMILLE VERTE " BISCUIT FIGURE OF TO WEN, depicted in a similar attitude, also wearing armour, but the colouring in green, yellow and aubergine ; much of the armour, beard and head-dress in biscuit ; the right leg resting on a tiger-like monster ; the whole supported on an aubergine base, perforated in front, and painted with bamboo sprays and root ornament at the back, 9¼*in.* ; *K'ang Hsi*

33

54

33

57

58

59

56 A BLUE GLAZED BISCUIT INCENSE BURNER of small circular form, with double handles, covered with a rich blue glaze, bordered with turquoise and supported on three mask feet, similarly enriched with light blue, 5*in.* ; *Ming Dynasty* ; wood stand and cover 3

57 A PAIR OF BUDDHIST LIONS IN BISCUIT, forming joss-stick holders, each with one paw raised, heads slightly turned and teeth bared, both covered with a brilliant violet-blue and turquoise splashed glaze ; an attractive pair, 8½*in.* ; *end Ming Dynasty* ; wood stands 4

[*See* ILLUSTRATION (ONE)]

58 A BISCUIT FIGURE OF THE GOD OF LITERATURE (Wen Ch'ang ti chun), seated in blue robes with his hands in biscuit in front of him, the deep sleeves and the neck of the robes bordered in turquoise ; the under robe with a yellow glaze ; the head and face finely modelled and in biscuit ; supported on a rectangular stand in dark blue, with turquoise fungus scrolls in relief, 13½*in.* ; *Ming Dynasty*

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

59 A PAIR OF BISCUIT JOSS STICK HOLDERS in the form of Buddhist Lions, with their heads slightly turned and teeth bared, each with one paw raised and coloured with brilliant turquoise and violet-blue glazes, supported on pierced rectangular stands, 9*in.* ; *end Ming* ; wood stands 4

[*See* ILLUSTRATION (ONE)]

60 A SEATED BISCUIT FIGURE OF KUAN YIN in the lalitasana pose, with raised right knee, wearing a jewelled corsage, the hands, breast and face in biscuit, the crown and robes in rich dark blue and turquoise glazes, supported on a rectangular base, moulded in relief with turquoise lions' masks, 12¼*in.* ; *Ming Dynasty*

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

61 A BISCUIT PEACH WINE POT with yellow glazed rustic spout and turquoise rustic handle, the body covered with rich violet-blue glaze, and ornamented in relief, in shades of yellow and turquoise, with leaves ; the base unglazed and in biscuit, 6*in.* ; *end Ming* ; wood stand 2

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

62 ANOTHER SMALLER PEACH WINE POT, the fruit-shaped body covered with a brilliant purple glaze, the rustic handle, spout and leaves all in turquoise ; the underside of the base in biscuit, 5½*in.* ; *end Ming* ; wood stand 2

*** A very similar wine pot in the Berlin Exhibition, 1929, is illustrated in the Catalogue, No. 981.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

62

60

61

63

64

65

63 A FINE SEATED BISCUIT FIGURE OF A STATESMAN in dark blue flowing robes, bordered with turquoise, the well-modelled head in biscuit with traces of gilding, supported on a stand with high-back seat, the rectangular base moulded in relief with lions' masks in yellow and bordered with turquoise, 11*in.* ; *Ming Dynasty*

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

64 A BLUE GLAZED TRIPOD INCENSE BURNER decorated round the body in Cloisonné style with *ju-i*-shaped lappets containing flower-sprays and cloud-scrolls in turquoise and biscuit ; the shoulders moulded in relief with two lions' masks in dark blue ; the body supported on three feet moulded with turquoise and blue masks, 6⅛*in.* ; *Ming Dynasty* ; carved wood stand and cover 3

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

65 A BISCUIT FIGURE OF SHOU LAO, GOD OF LONGEVITY, with elongated forehead, seated on a deer, holding a scroll in his left hand ; at his feet a stork and tortoise, his familiars and emblems of long life ; the face and head in biscuit ; the robes and high-back throne in a rich violet-blue and turquoise ; the deer in yellow ; the rectangular base moulded in relief with turquoise lions' masks, 11⅛*in.* ; *Ming Dynasty*, 16*th Century*

*** A similar figure in the Anthony de Rothschild Collection is illustrated by Hobson and Hetherington in " The Art of the Chinese Potter ", p. 121.

[*See* ILLUSTRATION]

66 AN IMPORTANT LARGE DOUBLE GOURD-SHAPE VASE decorated on a dark violet-blue ground in Cloisonné style, on the upper bulb, with flowering trees, rocks and four figures representing the Four Liberal Accomplishments, the lower bulb with three equestrian figures and a standing figure in a landscape with flowering trees, rock ornament and cloud-bands, in green, aubergine and yellow ; the neck with tasselled ornament and the base with false gadroons, 17½*in.* ; *Ming Dynasty, circa* 1500 ; wood stand 2

** The type is illustrated by R. L. Hobson in " The Wares of the Ming Dynasty ", Plate XII, Fig. 2.

[*See* Colour Plate]

END OF SALE

SOTHEBY & Co.'s

SALE OF

an extremely choice Collection

OF

CHINESE PORCELAIN

of the Ming and Ch'ing Dynasties

DECORATED WITH "FAMILLE VERTE"

OR "FAMILLE ROSE" ENAMELS

OR WITH MONOCHROME GLAZES

ALSO OF

SUPERB JADES, IVORIES AND CORALS

The Property of Mr. Edward J. Farmer

of New York

20th November, 1936

PRICES AND BUYERS' NAMES

LOT		£	s.	d.
1	Sparks	17	0	0
2	Bennett, Mrs.	42	0	0
3	Spink	72	0	0
4	Nott	66	0	0
5	Sparks	160	0	0
6	Sassoon, Mrs.	155	0	0
7	Nott	255	0	0
8	Nott	60	0	0
9	Nott	45	0	0
10	Nott	42	0	0
11	Deacon	21	0	0
12	Bennett, Mrs.	75	0	0
13	Bennett, Mrs.	65	0	0
14	Bois, Miss W.	34	0	0
15	Sigrist, F.	105	0	0
16	Vansittart	90	0	0
17	Bennett, Mrs. C. P.	285	0	0
18	Nott	48	0	0
19	Sigrist, F.	200	0	0
20	Sigrist, F.	125	0	0
21	Hamilton	250	0	0
22	Sparks	290	0	0
23	Sparks	380	0	0
24	Nott	270	0	0
25	Williams, V.	265	0	0
26	Sparks	85	0	0
27	Sparks	210	0	0
28	Sparks	250	0	0
29	Withdrawn		—	
30	Moss	65	0	0
31	Hancock	120	0	0
32	Collie	32	0	0
33	Crane	105	0	0
34	De Pinna	400	0	0
35	Feldman, Dr.	44	0	0
36	Sparks	135	0	0
37	Swettenham, Sir F.	82	0	0
38	Hudson, A. C.	35	0	0
39	Nott	15	0	0
40	Moss	38	0	0
41	De Pinna	85	0	0
42	Sparks	245	0	0
43	De Pinna	500	0	0
44	Hamilton	22	0	0

LOT		£	s.	d.
45	Spink	48	0	0
46	Spink	120	0	0
47	Buhler	95	0	0
48	Yamanaka.. ..	180	0	0
49	Hart	35	0	0
50	Bluett..	26	0	0
51	Phipps	270	0	0
52	De Pinna	54	0	0
53	Sparks	36	0	0
54	Burton, Mrs. ..	30	0	0
55	Nott	26	0	0
56	Crane	10	0	0
57	Crane	54	0	0
58	Nott	35	0	0
59	Pritchard, B. C. .	50	0	0
60	Mallett	54	0	0
61	Mason..	32	0	0
62	Mason..	34	0	0
63	Bluett..	40	0	0
64	Partridge, F. ..	25	0	0
65	Partridge, F. ..	40	0	0
66	Beristayn	170	0	0
	Total of Sale ..	£7,449	0	0

LIBRARY M.

DEC 7 19